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REPUBLIC PARTY CONGRESS REVIEWS  
KARELO-FINNISH SSR AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS

The report on 23 September 1952 by A. N. Yegorov, Secretary, TsK KP (b) Karelo-Finnish SSR, to the Third Congress of KP (b) Karelo-Finnish SSR contained the following information on the progress of agriculture in the republic:

During the last 3 years, the sown area in kolkhozes of the republic has increased by 10 percent and in sovkhozes of the Ministry of State Farms by 40 percent. The added area was devoted mainly to potatoes and fodder crops. As compared with 1950, the area planted to potatoes increased 11 percent, and that sown to perennial grasses 50 percent.

During the last 3 years, the number of head of livestock in kolkhozes of the republic increased as follows: cattle 61 percent; hogs 147 percent; and sheep 118 percent. The number of head of livestock in sovkhozes also increased.

However, no substantial improvement has been attained in the agriculture of the republic. The TsK KP (b) and the Council of Ministers of the republic and local party and Soviet organs are solving problems connected with the development of agriculture, particularly collectivized kolkhoz agriculture, very slowly. The plan for plowing up virgin and long-fallow land is not being fulfilled in the republic. Many kolkhozes are obtaining poor harvests.

Development of collectivized animal husbandry is lagging seriously. The TsK KP (b) and the Council of Ministers of the republic and local party and Soviet organs have not drawn all necessary conclusions from the difficulty of bringing kolkhoz livestock through the winter of 1951 - 1952. Fodder procurement and preparations for bringing collectivized livestock through the 1952 - 1953 winter are proceeding unsatisfactorily.

- 1 -

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The grain harvest is proceeding slowly and, as a result, the plan for delivery of grain to the state is being fulfilled unsatisfactorily.

The TsK KP (b) of the republic, TsK Secretary Malyutin, and the Agricultural Division headed by Sidorov, and before him by Golubev, have not carried out the necessary organizational work at the local level, have not delved deeply into the condition of kolkhoz and MTS affairs, have been of little assistance in solving practical problems connected with development of agriculture, and have unsatisfactorily directed rayon committee supervision of kolkhozes.

Although Ankhimov has been in his post as Minister of Agriculture for many years, he is not acquainted with the actual conditions prevailing in kolkhozes and MTS and tolerates serious deficiencies in their work.

Kryuchkov, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers and responsible for supervising agriculture, takes only a superficial interest in kolkhozes and sovkhozes. He has done little to improve the cadres and thereby the work of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The TsK KP (b) of the republic and rayon party committees do not take measures to improve supervision of kolkhozes. There are about 1,000 agricultural specialists in the republic, but only 29 of these are kolkhoz chairmen.

One of the reasons for the organizational and economic weakness of many kolkhozes is the occurrence of gross violations of kolkhoz bylaws. These violations undermine the collectivized economy of kolkhozes.

All bylaw violations must be quickly eliminated and all pilfered property, livestock, agricultural products, monetary means, and diverted kolkhoz land must be returned to the kolkhozes. It is necessary to establish strict order, which excludes every possibility of encroachment on collectivized property in the kolkhozes.

Republic agriculture has an adequate amount of modern equipment at its disposal; it has tractors of various types, combines, seeders, potato planting and digging machines, etc. But this equipment is not being fully utilized.

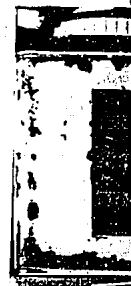
The TsK KP (b) of the republic has demanded of the Ministry of Agriculture and rayon party committees only mild enforcement of the decree issued by the Eighth Plenum of the TsK on MTS operation, and has tolerated infractions by the MTS of their contractual obligations to kolkhozes.

It is necessary to carry out land-improvement work on a wide scale in the republic. But this important task is being performed very badly by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Main Administration of Land Improvement (Kuz'min, chief) under the Council of Ministers of the republic. During 1950 and 1951, the plan for land-improvement work was fulfilled only 28 percent; in 1952, the plan has thus far been fulfilled only 16 percent.

The great possibilities for building kolkhoz hydroelectric power plants are being poorly utilized in the republic.

The task of republic party organizations is to stop underrating agriculture, to be occupied with it earnestly day by day, and to solve problems connected with its development in an intelligent manner. Party organizations must improve the party influence in the kolkhozes, strengthen existing kolkhoz party organizations, and create new ones so as to effect a better distribution of party forces in rayons and to encourage election of kolkhoz production leaders to the party. It is necessary to enhance the role of the MTS and specialized stations in developing collectivized kolkhoz agriculture and, in the near future, to strengthen these stations with experienced supervisory cadres and cadres of

- 2 -

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machine operators, so as to assure a rise in the level of mechanization of labor-consuming work in all branches of kolkhoz production. Special attention must be paid to unconditional fulfillment of planned tasks in regard to new land drainage and utilization, rock removal, grubbing, and meadow and pasture improvement.

Animal husbandry must become a highly profitable branch of collectivized agriculture. To accomplish this, it is necessary to improve livestock care, to strengthen livestock farms with qualified cadres, and to improve the fodder base for an increase in livestock raising. All measures must be taken to fulfill the 1952 plan for storage of coarse and succulent fodder so that adequate supplies will be on hand for the entire period when livestock is kept in barns.

The primary tasks of sovkhozes of the republic are to create a stable fodder base, provide livestock with good shelters, and introduce complex mechanization of labor-consuming work in animal husbandry and fodder procurement. Sovkhozes must improve their livestock, increase livestock productivity, and provide more meat and dairy products as well as potatoes and vegetables for the cities and workers' settlements of the republic.

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- 3 -

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